

ICBF Weekly Update 31st May 2013

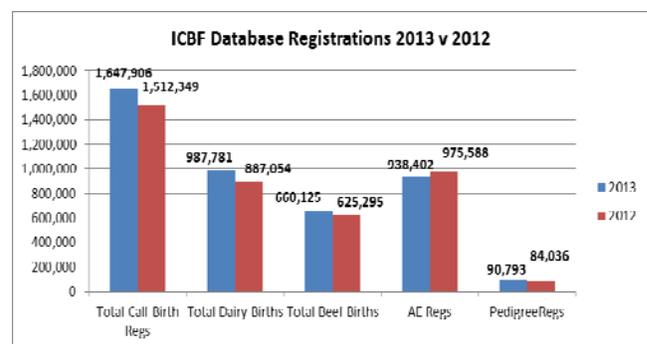
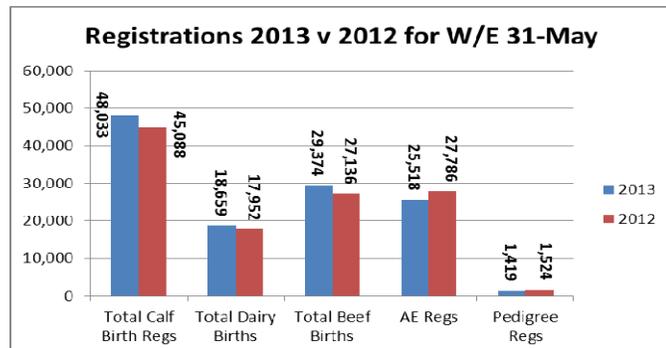
1 Important Dates

- Audit & Finance Sub-Committee Meeting** – Thursday 11th July, 10:00 - 10:30, Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 11th July, 10:30 to 14:00, Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise.
- Sheep Ireland Board Meeting** – Thursday 11th July, 14:00 to 16:30, Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise.

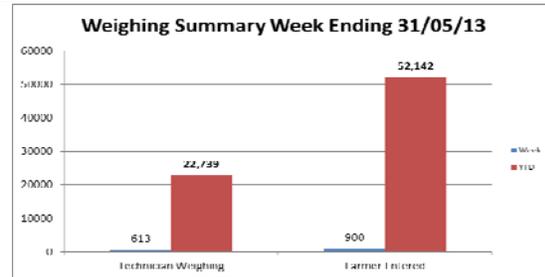
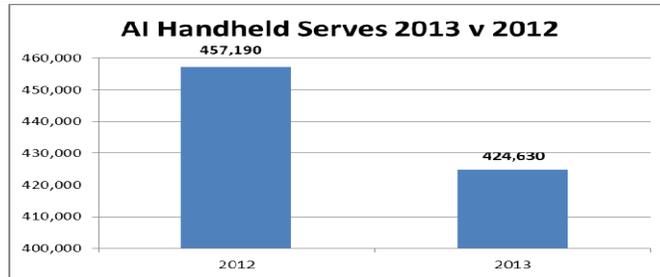
2 ICAR – Aarhus

- This week, ICBF were represented at the ICAR conference in Aarhus, Denmark. The main focus of the 3 days was on health data recording. The Nordic countries have already made significant progress in relation to health recording, and have been including significant weightings for health traits in the overall breeding indexes for some time. It is undoubtedly one of the next nuts to be cracked for us in Ireland. We have made a start, especially on the dairy side, primarily thanks to data from the Dairy Efficiency Programme (DEP). Some initial analysis on the BVD scheme data has also been completed in order to establish the heritability. The initial results look promising.
- However, the key to progress will be the integration of data captured in various platforms and by farmers and the various service providers (vets, hoof trimmers, testing labs, slaughter factories, etc.). While it won't be easy, we can't shy away from it. We will be increasing the resources dedicated to this area over the coming months and into the future. We cannot provide the industry with the genetic evaluations it needs to breed more profitable animals without significant progress in health data capture.

3 Database



- The stats above are compiled with the assistance of DAFM AIM systems.
- In the Suckler scheme, the number of 2012 born calves with meal introduced is 633,937 with the number of animals weaned at 563,020.
- BVD test results continue to be received at ICBF and are being processed accordingly. There have been 1,649,000 results received since January 1st, of which 47,000 have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012, 2.14 million results have now been received.
- The graph below shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2013 compared with 2012.
- This week there were 613 weights received through the technician service and 900 weights recorded by farmers. The graph below shows the week and year to date totals.



4 HerdPlus®

Over 9,300 Suckler Cow Reports were printed this week. Over half of these have been packed and posted and will be with herd owners early next week. An Animal Events Recording Notebook has been included with this report.

- The Suckler Cow report is an annual report for suckler farmers. It provides invaluable information to herd owners. The report details each cow's individual details, ancestry details, Euro-Star index, calving and fertility performance details. Calf weaning, performance and factory data are also included.
- The image below is an example of the Suckler Cow report.

Animal Details			Ancestry Details						Euro-Star Index								
Jumbo:	436		Sire's Sire:	MOX MORU			Sire's Dam:	VDB759886			Within Breed	Economic Indexes	Index	Rel%	Across Breed		
Official Tag:	IE341442190436			FREIGHDUFF GILLIAN				★ ★ ★ ★ ♪	Maternal	€176	23%	★ ★ ★ ★ ★					
Animal Name:			Sire:	IE341468910755			Dam:	IE341392460378			♪	Terminal	€-1	28%	♪		
Date of Birth:	03/02/2006			FREIGHDUFF MARK				FREIGHDUFF GILLIAN			♪	Dairy Beef					
Breed:	HO (43.75%), SI (50%), UN (6.25%)		Expected Progeny Performance			Expected Daughter Breeding Performance			Expected Progeny Performance			Expected Daughter Breeding Performance					
Herdbook:			Calving Difficulty (%384)			Daught Calv Diff (%384)			Calving Difficulty (%384)			Daught Calv Diff (%384)					
Scored:			Docility (1-5 scale)			Daught Milk (Kg)			Docility (1-5 scale)			Daught Milk (Kg)					
Weighted:			Carcass Weight (Kg)			Daught Calv Int. (Days)			Carcass Weight (Kg)			Daught Calv Int. (Days)					
BLUP Index (Reliability %)			Carc Conf. (1-15 scale)						Carc Conf. (1-15 scale)								
MUSCLE	SKELETAL	DOCILITY	Daught Milk (Kg)			Daught Calv Int. (Days)			Daught Milk (Kg)			Daught Calv Int. (Days)					
			Daught Calv Int. (Days)						Daught Calv Int. (Days)								
Calving & Fertility Performance						Weanling & Carcass Performance											
Calving Date	Tag Number	Calving Survey	Calving Interval	Sex	Current Status	Sire	Sire Breed	Age days	Weight Kgs	Growth Kg/Day*	Price/Kilo	Calf Quality	Docility	Age at Slaught. (months)	Carcass Conf. & Fat	Carcass Weight	
1	24/03/2008	IE241025330425	S. Assis		M	Dead	90224	LM	200	220	0.9	€2.16	V.Good	V.Quiet	22	R3	363
2	26/05/2009	IE241025390463	Normal	427	F	Dead	MANY	UN					V.Good	Quiet	23		
3	06/06/2010	IE241025380487	Normal	375	M	Dead	60447	LM	216	220	0.84	€2.36	V.Good	V.Quiet	25	O+4=	307
4	03/04/2011	IE241025330508	Normal	300	M	Dead	10353	LM					V.Good	V.Quiet	22	U=3-	350
5	28/02/2012	IE241025360535	Normal	330	M	Sold	10353	LM	181	295	1.41	€2.37	Excellent	V.Quiet			

- The Beef HerdPlus® 2013/2014 Journal was finalised this week. Printing will begin next week.
- The Angus Sexed Semen project for the dairy herd is running smoothly, with over 50 herds currently involved in the project. Munster Cattle Breeding has agreed to continue the delivery of this project to their technicians for yet another week.
- Beef Sexed Semen project information packs have been sent to over 70 suckler farmers. The response so far is very positive. It is anticipated that the first of the semen will be on farm by the 10th of June 2013. Information on the project including the sign up form can be found on the ICBF.com home page.

5 Genetic Evaluations

The InterBeef technical committee and working group met during the ICAR conference in Aarhus (Denmark) at the start of the week. The work plan validated by the group included the consolidation of the across country genetic

parameters for weaning weight (ICBF research project), the inclusion of crossbred animals in the Charolais and Limousine runs (ICBF research project), as well as the extension of the InterBeef model to calving traits (Czech Republic research project).

6 Sheep Ireland

- ✚ The Sheep Ireland online ram search has gone live on www.sheep.ie. We have no doubt that this facility will be a fantastic resource for everyone involved in the sheep industry moving forward. The availability and visibility of performance recorded rams has been one of the major factors holding back genetic progress in Ireland in recent years and this publicly accessible online facility will hopefully change this situation. This ram search will also be a great promoter for our performance recording pedigree ram breeders around the country – pedigree rams in every county can now be located with ease.
- ✚ In terms of STAP, this ram search is of critical importance, STAP applicants and their facilitators can now search for STAP eligible rams in their county. Task 1 of STAP requires that all applicants use a performance recorded ram in year 1 or 2 of the programme – performance recorded rams purchased since 2010 are eligible for this task. This means that there is a section of STAP applicants that already have a STAP eligible ram on their farm, many may not even be aware of this.
- ✚ Our advice to STAP facilitators and farmers alike is now to collect the identities of stock rams present on the farm and go to www.sheep.ie to assess if the ram is eligible for the programme. Where there remains any uncertainty whatsoever about ram eligibility we would urge facilitators/farmers to send the Sheep Ireland ram query form (which can be found on our website) to us as soon as possible. All STAP applicants should be aware that performance recorded rams need to be retained on the farm and mated with ewes in the year of choosing Task 1.

7 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 31/05/13						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 31/05/13	No. EDIY Herds YTD 31/05/13	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 31/05/13	No. EDIY Cows YTD 31/05/13	% Cows EDIY
Munster	3,538	1,004	28%	278,814	84,715	30%
Progressive	2,306	901	39%	202,875	80,415	40%
Tipperary	100	29	29%	8,282	2,658	32%
Total	5,944	1,934	33%	489,971	167,788	34%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2012 Cows Recorded 01/01/12 - 31/05/12	YTD 2013 Cows Recorded 01/01/13 - 31/05/13	2013 vs. 2012 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	277,218	278,814	0.6%
Progressive	195,123	202,875	3.8%
Tipperary	9,084	8,282	-9.7%
Total	481,425	489,971	1.7%

Please see milk recording stats attached

Sean Coughlan Chief Executive, ICBF & Sheep Ireland, Highfield House, Shinagh, Bandon Co. Cork., Phone: +353 238 820 222, Mobile: +353 872903121, Email scoughlan@icbf.com.

Registered Office: Irish Cattle Breeding Federation Society Ltd trading as "ICBF", Highfield House, Shinagh, Bandon, Co Cork. Registered Dublin, Ireland. Registration Number 4914R, Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 1893 to 1978. Web: www.icbf.com.

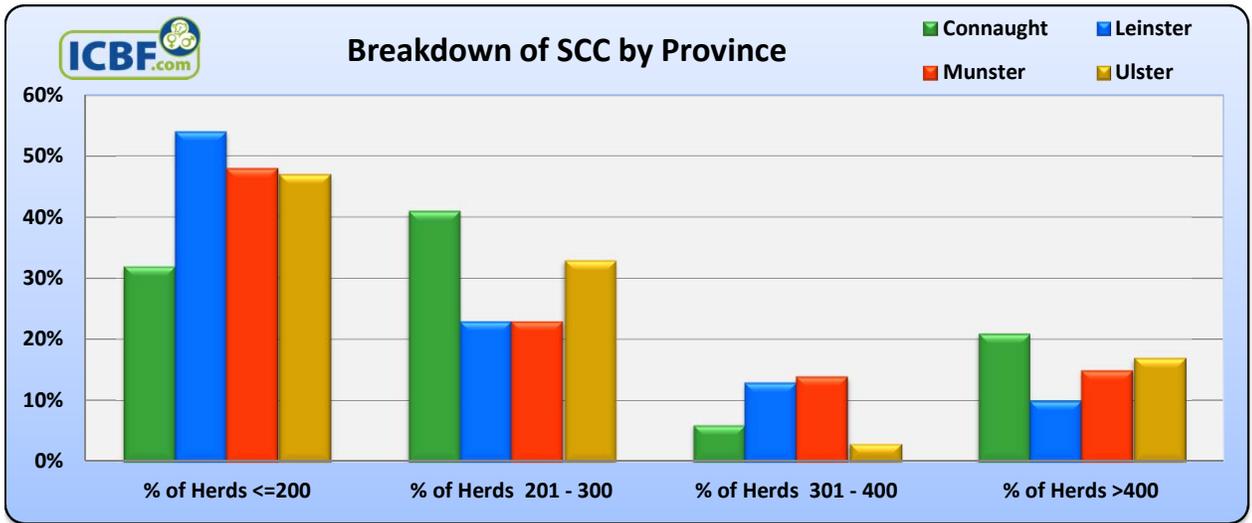
Registered Office: Sheep Database Ltd trading as "Sheep Ireland". Highfield House, Shinagh, Bandon, Co Cork. Registered Dublin, Ireland. Registration Number 465004, Companies Acts 1963 to 2006. Web: www.sheep.ie.

National Milk Recording Results for the 10 day period, 22-MAY-2013 To 31-MAY-2013								
ICBF.com	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
Connaught	34	2,469	73	26.5	3.65	3.29	1.84	254
Leinster	175	15,103	86	26.1	3.64	3.40	1.83	188
Munster	520	41,402	80	26.8	3.62	3.39	1.88	214
Ulster	30	2,292	76	28.0	3.72	3.27	1.96	191
National Statistics	759	61,266	81	26.7	3.63	3.39	1.87	208

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 22-MAY-2013 To 31-MAY-2013								
ICBF.com	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	% of Herds <=200	% of Herds 201 - 300	% of Herds 301 - 400	% of Herds >400	Average SCC*
Connaught	34	2,469	73	32%	41%	6%	21%	254
Leinster	175	15,103	86	54%	23%	13%	10%	188
Munster	520	41,402	80	48%	23%	14%	15%	214
Ulster	30	2,292	76	47%	33%	3%	17%	191
National Statistics	759	61,266	81	48%	25%	13%	14%	208

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



% Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 22-MAY-2013 To 31-MAY-2013								
ICBF.com	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Best 20% SCC	Best 40% SCC	Average SCC**	Worst 40% SCC	Worst 20% SCC
Connaught	34	2,469	73	174	224	240	269	375
Leinster	175	15,103	86	118	164	183	217	306
Munster	520	41,402	80	128	184	208	247	356
Ulster	30	2,292	76	99	174	211	248	311
National Statistics	759	61,266	81	125	178	206	240	347

** Percentile Herd SCC Rank (Median SCC)

